

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:
~~associating a delay with a request to transmit information~~ determining at least one
relative delay between at least two user equipment; and
transmitting a signal identifying a time at which information is permitted to be
transmitted based on the relative delay.

2. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling a flow of information, comprising:
receiving a signal requesting to transmit information;
~~associating a delay with a request to transmit information~~ determining at least one
relative delay between at least two user equipment;
determining a time at which the information is permitted to be transmitted based on the
relative delay; and
transmitting a signal identifying the time at which information is permitted to be
transmitted.

3. (Original) A method, as set forth in claim 2, further comprising:
transmitting a synchronizing signal, and wherein transmitting a signal identifying the
time at which information is permitted to be transmitted further comprises
transmitting a signal identifying the time as a function of the synchronizing signal
at which information is permitted to be transmitted.

4. (Original) A method, as set forth in claim 3, wherein:
transmitting the signal identifying the time as a function of the synchronizing signal at which information is permitted to be transmitted further comprises transmitting over a shared channel the signal identifying the time as a function of the synchronizing signal at which information is permitted to be transmitted.
5. (Original) A method, as set forth in claim 2, wherein transmitting a signal identifying the time at which information is permitted to be transmitted further comprises transmitting a signal identifying a frame in which information is permitted to be transmitted.
6. (Currently Amended) A method, as set forth in claim 2, wherein ~~associating a delay with a request to transmit information~~ determining at least one relative delay between at least two user equipment further comprises determining a propagation delay.
7. (Currently Amended) A method, as set forth in claim 2, wherein ~~associating a delay with a request to transmit information~~ determining at least one relative delay between at least two user equipment further comprises determining a processing delay.
8. (Currently Amended) A method, as set forth in claim 2, further comprising:
receiving the information at a first preselected time;
comparing the first preselected time with the identified time to determine the relative delay between at least two user equipment ~~delay associated with the request to transmit information.~~

9. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling a flow of information from a user to a base station, comprising:
- receiving a signal from the user requesting to transmit information;
- ~~associating a delay with a user~~ determining at least one relative delay between the user
- and at least one other user;
- determining a time at which the user is to transmit the information to the base station,
- wherein the determined time is a function of the relative delay; and
- transmitting a signal to the user identifying the time at which information is permitted to be transmitted.
10. (Original) A method, as set forth in claim 9, further comprising:
- transmitting a synchronizing signal to the user, and wherein transmitting a signal
- identifying the time at which information is to be transmitted further comprises
- transmitting a signal identifying the time as a function of the synchronizing signal
- at which information is permitted to be transmitted.
11. (Original) A method, as set forth in claim 10, wherein:
- transmitting the signal identifying the time as a function of the synchronizing signal at
- which information is to be transmitted further comprises transmitting over a
- shared channel the signal identifying the time as a function of the synchronizing
- signal at which information is to be transmitted.

12. (Original) A method, as set forth in claim 10, further comprising a plurality of users, and wherein:
transmitting the synchronizing signal further comprises transmitting the synchronizing signal over a shared channel to each of the plurality of users; and
transmitting the signal identifying the time as a function of the synchronizing signal at which information is to be transmitted further comprises transmitting over the shared channel to the plurality of users a signal identifying a unique time, as a function of the synchronizing signal, at which information is to be transmitted.
13. (Original) A method, as set forth in claim 9, wherein transmitting a signal identifying the time at which information is to be transmitted further comprises transmitting a signal identifying a frame in which information is to be transmitted.
14. (Currently Amended) A method, as set forth in claim 9, wherein ~~associating a delay with a user~~ determining at least one relative delay between the user and at least one other user further comprises determining a propagation delay associated with signals delivered by the user.
15. (Currently Amended) A method, as set forth in claim 9, wherein ~~associating a delay with a user~~ determining at least one relative delay between the user and at least one other user further comprises determining a processing delay associated with signals delivered by the user.

16. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:
means for receiving a signal requesting to transmit information;
means for ~~associating a delay with a request to transmit information~~ determining at least one relative delay between at least two user equipment;
means for determining a time at which the information is permitted to be transmitted
based on the relative delay; and
means for transmitting a signal identifying the time at which information is permitted to be transmitted.
17. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling the flow of information between a user and a base station, comprising:
transmitting a signal from the user requesting permission from the base station to transmit information;
~~associating a delay with a user~~ determining at least one relative delay between the user and at least one other user;
determining a time at which the user is to transmit the information to the base station, wherein the determined time is a function of the relative delay; and
transmitting a signal to the user identifying the time at which information is permitted to be transmitted; and
transmitting the information from the user to the base station at the identified time.
18. (Original) A method, as set forth in claim 17, further comprising:
receiving the information from the user at a first preselected time;

comparing the first preselected time with the identified time to determine the relative delay between the user and at least one other user ~~delay associated with the user~~.

19. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling the flow of information between a user and a base station, comprising:
receiving a synchronizing signal from the base station;
transmitting a signal from the user requesting permission from the base station to transmit information;
receiving a signal from the base station identifying a time relative to the synchronizing signal at which information is to be transmitted, the time being determined based on a relative delay between the user and at least one other user; and
transmitting the information from the user to the base station at the identified time.
20. (Original) A method, as set forth in claim 19, wherein:
receiving a signal from the base station identifying the time at which information is to be transmitted further comprises receiving a signal from the base station identifying a substantially unique time at which information is to be transmitted.
21. (Original) A method, as set forth in claim 19, wherein:
receiving a signal from the base station identifying the time at which information is to be transmitted further comprises receiving a signal from the base station identifying a substantially unique frame associated with the synchronizing signal during which information is to be transmitted.

22. (Original) A method, as set forth in claim 19, wherein:
- receiving a synchronizing signal from the base station further comprises receiving a synchronizing signal from the base station over a shared channel.